

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

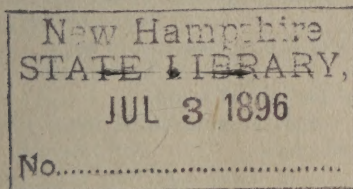
OFFICERS

OF THE

TOWN OF PLYMOUTH,

FOR THE

YEAR ENDING MARCH 1, 1876.



PLYMOUTH, N. H.

V. N. BASS, PRINTER AND STATIONER,
1876.

REPORT OF THE SELECTMEN.

The Selectmen in account with the Town of Plymouth.

Dr.

To cash received for town notes given,	\$2,455 00
“ “ of the State Treasurer	
“ “ “ for Bank Tax,	590 93
“ “ “ Railroad Tax,	976 76
“ “ “ Literary fund,	154 37
“ “ of County Treasurer for	
“ “ “ support of paupers,	142 55
“ “ “ “ “	288 93
“ “ of Geo. Lovejoy, assistance	
“ “ “ repaid,	13 50
“ “ of Laconia for assistance to	
“ “ “ M. Gilford,	45 00
“ “ for old bridge timber sold,	8 00
“ “ for sale of lumber.	6 92
“ “ on J. F. & W. F. Lang-	
“ “ “ dous' note,	100 00
“ “ of H. W. Merrill for a fine,	10 00
“ “ of town of Holderness for	
“ “ “ lighting bridge,	8 65
“ “ of Collector, error in	
“ “ “ J. Boynton's tax,	17 00
“ “ of Roxan Stearns, to be	
“ “ “ applied to her support,	259 50
“ “ for sale of wood,	1 50
“ “ of J. Tomkinson for note	
“ “ “ and interest,	65 28
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	\$5,143 89

Cr.

By cash paid the Town Treasurer.

\$5,143 89

TREASURER'S REPORT.

A. G. SMYTHE, Treasurer,

In account with the Town of Plymouth, 1875.

Dr.

To assessment of State, County, Town and School	
Tax on resident,	\$10,339 89
assessment of State, County, Town and School	
Tax on non-resident,	186 39
Taxes on Dogs,	100 00
Highway Tax on non-residents,	47 77
Special Tax in District No. 2,	620 94
“ “ “ “ 3,	51 92
“ “ “ “ 8,	121 58
Cash received of Treasurer, 1874,	64 24
Taxes uncollected in hands of Collector 1869,	29 29
“ “ “ “ 1870,	78 99
“ “ “ “ 1871,	333 05
“ “ “ “ 1872,	44 58
“ “ “ “ 1874,	645 71
Cash of Selectmen,	5,143 89
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	\$17,808 24

A. G. SMYTHE, Treasurer,

In account with the Town of Plymouth, 1875.

Cr.

1875.

March 9, Cash paid D. R. Bartlett damage to	
sheep by dogs,	\$17 50
“ H. Philbrick damage to	
sheep by dogs,	7 00
“ James Currier, “ “ “	6 00
“ Jona. Clay, “ “ “	14 00
“ K. Whitney, “ “ “	14 00
“ E. G. Morse, “ “ “	3 50
“ Jos. Blodgett, “ “ “	7 00

March 1,	"	Wm Webber for assistance,	4 00
" 8,	"	" " "	4 00
" 16,	"	" " "	4 00
	"	Coupons,	84 88
	"	for bank notes,	1 00
" 29,	"	Chas. Sanborn for keeping transient persons,	4 00
" 30,	"	S. W. Davis services as school committee for 1874,	60 00
" 31,	"	B. Kidder for board of Andrew Mack,	17 40
	"	C. Dougherty for rent of house to Wm. Webber,	5 00
April 5,	"	W. S. Robinson for work on highway,	14 10
" 6,	"	Mrs. Sullivan for keepiag transient persons,	5 25
" 10,	"	John Buchanan for breaking roads,	2 10
	"	O. G. Smith services as police,	4 00
" 12,	"	J. G. Burbank board of Wm. Webber,	19 00
" 15,	"	A. Bruce for support of Mrs. Bruce,	21 00
" 17,	"	Jas. Keeble services with hearse,	10 00
" 21,	"	Insane Asylum for support of Solon Currier and Eben Shute,	\$53 91 & \$59 70, 113 61
	"	Phebe J. Foster for support of Samuel Foster,	18 00
" 22,	"	Otis Young, Jr. services as police 1874,	2 00
	"	Henry Wells for breaking roads,	24 55
	"	Peter Whittemore over-work on highway District No. 18,	34 94
" 24,	"	John X. Brown breaking roads,	4 57
" 27,	"	J. L. Whidden work on highway,	3 39
	"	Chas. E. Sanborn keeping transient persons,	3 00
May 1,	"	V. N. Bass printing town reports,	36 00
	"	K. Corliss overwork on highway District No. 19,	17 10
	"	Enos Stevens " " 15,	3 00
	"	B. Kidder " " 16,	44 25
	"	B. Kidder literary and dog money due District No. 7, 1874,	18 31
" 5,	"	D. R. Bartlett breaking roads in District No. 7,	16 55
	"	Mrs. Sullivan keeping trans't persons,	3 00
" 6,	"	J. G. Burbank support of W. Webber and wife,	12 00
" 8,	"	James Keeble services with hearse,	6 00

"	13,	"	H. L. Sargent breaking roads in District No. 15,	1 80
"		"	Jona. Chase work on bridge,	2 40
"	15,	"	H. Clark for land,	400 00
"	19,	"	P. Woods for work,	2 60
"		"	Manson York board of Fannie Clark,	21 00
"	24,	"	Andrew R. Smith overwork on highway,	50 52
"	29,	"	Phebe J. Foster board of Sam'l Foster,	15 00
"		"	W. W. Brown for lumber,	146 15
"		"	Geo. P. Cook breaking roads,	10 00
"	31,	"	Elkins Willey damages to ox.	50 00
June	3,	"	A. Bruce for board of Mrs. Bruce,	21 00
"	4,	"	Perley Fawcett care of lamps to May 31,	3 75
"	9,	"	B. C. & M. R. R. freight bill,	22 00
"	15,	"	C. E. Sauborn keeping tran. persons,	2 00
"		"	Mrs. Sullivan " "	3 50
"		"	Jona. Ferrin support of Melvina Kimball to May 22, 1875,	49 45
"	16,	"	F. P. Morse breaking roads spring of 1875,	12 00
"	19,	"	Cyrus Corliss overwork and break- ing roads 1873 and 1874,	12 11
"	21,	"	M. Perrin breaking roads 1874 & '75,	9 00
"		"	J. A. Penniman " '73 & '74,	43 80
"	22,	"	James Keeble for moving safe,	8 00
"		"	B. F. Ellis for witness fees,	1 41
"		"	J. S. Morrison breaking roads,	1 20
"	24,	"	J. Sellingham work on Cemetry fence,	5 53
July	9,	"	W. W. Wilkinson services as collector in part,	18 29
"		"	I. D. Stafford breaking roads,	10 00
"		"	Abatements allowed collector 1874,	35 78
"	20,	"	Insane Asylum expenses Cur- rier and Shute,	84 08
"		"	Postage,	12
"	21,	"	Phebe J. Foster support of Samuel Foster,	21 00
"	23,	"	Chas. Haseltine land damages,	1 00
Aug.	9,	"	A. K. Bruce for board of Mrs. Bruce,	21 00
"		"	Mrs. Sullivan for keeping tramps,	1 25
"	13,	"	Mrs. M. B. Whitman care of Mary C. Blake,	7 00
"	16,	"	James Keeble services with hearse,	14 00
"	19,	"	H. M. Rogers lumber for bridge,	4 00
"	31,	"	H. M. Rogers sup. of Roxana Stearns,	10 14

Sept.	2,	"	C. A. Fellows work on bridge,	3 00
"	4,	"	County Tax,	1150 05
"		"	express on same,	40
"	6,	"	H. W. Merrill for keeping tramp,	1 00
"	7,	"	Maria Whitman support of	
			M. C. Blake,	13 00
"		"	Alouzo Eastman work on bridge,	5 75
"	9,	"	Jona. Ferris sup. of Melvina Kimball,	57 25
"	10,	"	O. G. Smith sup. of Wm. Webber,	83 47
		"	A. K. Bruce " mother,	21 00
		"	Phebe J. Foster " Sam'l Foster,	21 00
"	14,	"	Perley Fawcett lighting bridge,	3 75
"	17,	"	W. R. Park lumber for lobby,	80 70
"	30,	"	Manson R. York board of Fannie Clark,	34 60
Oct.	2,	"	W. W. Gibson special tax	
			District No. 3 in part,	41 00
"	4,	"	R. B. Clark special tax District	
			No. 8 in part,	68 00
		"	H. W. Merrill building and mate-	
			rial for lobby in part,	100 00
		"	Town of Franklin for support	
			of Mrs. Howard,	106 85
"	5,	"	Sam'l Brock board of Fannie Clark,	3 75
"		"	J. S. Blodgett lumber in Dist. No. 17,	11 50
"	6,	"	G. H. Corliss services as police,	4 00
"	8,	"	R. R. Carleton for laying concrete,	50 00
"	16,	"	H. W. Merrill on act. lobby,	26 25
"	18,	"	R. R. Carleton for laying concrete,	32 16
		"	E. A. Adams services as police,	4 00
		"	Sarah L. Perkins board Rox. Stearns,	9 66
		"	B. C. & M. R. R. freight on lumber,	13 55
		"	H. W. Merrill on act. lobby,	37 86
		"	H. W. Merrill " "	11 35
"	19,	"	H. W. Merrill " "	25 00
"	20,	"	Wm. Webber support self and wife,	12 00
"	26,	"	Annette H. Andrews board of	
			Rox. Stearns,	3 50
"	27,	"	Asylum for support of Eben Shute,	54 61
		"	express on same,	25
"	30,	"	H. D. Kent work on sign boards,	4 25
		"	M. B. Whitman board of	
			M. C. Blake,	8 73
		"	A. K. Bruce board of Mary Bruce,	21 00
Nov.	1,	"	James Keble services with hearse,	14 00
		"	George Garland keeping	
			tramps and pauper,	2 90

Nov.	2,	"	Phebe J. Foster for board of Samuel Foster,	18 00
"	4,	"	S. M. Morse services as police,	4 00
"	5,	"	Sarah K. Hibbard for execution vs. Town,	78 35
"	9,	"	E. B. Connor for assistance,	3 00
"		"	H. W. Merrill stove for lobby,	7 50
"	12,	"	C. H. Bowles breaking roads 1874 & '75,	5 00
"	16,	"	Jona. Ferriu sup. Melvina Kimball,	16 00
"		"	Jona. Ferrin board Roxanna Stearns,	3 42
"	19,	"	L. M. Howe sup. of Roxan Stearns,	20 00
"		"	W. H. Marshall work on high- way in Dist. No. 14,	19 35
"		"	D. B. Clement repairs on Union bridge,	315 24
Dec.	2,	"	T. Fawcett for lighting bridge,	3 75
"	3,	"	Geo. A. Clark for plank and timber,	4 68
"	4,	"	R. B. Clark special tax in part,	35 00
"		"	W. W. Wilkinson services as collector in part,	30 00
"		"	H. W. Merrill on acct. lobby,	8 14
"		"	H. W. Morrill services as police,	15 00
"		"	C. P. Leavitt for work on ledge,	10 00
"		"	Jona. Chase " "	8 00
"		"	P. Wood work on lobby and road,	20 63
"		"	S. W. Davis med. attendance to Mrs. W. Webber,	1 50
"	6,	"	S. W. Davis for printing and posting school notices,	2 50
"	9,	"	W. W. Gibson special tax in District No. 3,	10 43
"		"	Maria B. Whitman, support of Mrs. Blake,	4 00
"		"	Eliza B. Connor, assistance,	3 00
"		"	Saml. Brock assistance to Fanny Clark,	9 00
"		"	W. S. Robinson work non-res. tax in Dist. No. 19,	50
"	15,	"	J. F. Langdon land damage,	200 00
"	16,	"	T. Rogers med. services to Wm. Webber and wife,	5 50
"	20,	"	Noah J. Nutting breaking roads,	7 20
"		"	G. W. Garland work self and team,	31 40
"		"	A. K. Bruce board of Mary Bruce,	21 00
"	23,	"	Phebe J. Foster bd. of Sam'l Foster,	14 00

Dec. 23,	"	L. M. Howe special tax in District No. 2 in part,	300 00
	"	E. E. Merrill for plank,	5 95
	"	James Keeble services with hearse,	6 00
	"	Betsey Flanders interest,	17 50
	"	C. H. Morrill for pub. water trough,	3 00
	"	C. H. Merrill for gravel,	3 00
1876.			
Jan. 1,	"	Allowed collector for labor on high- way non resident tax in Dist. No. 16,	3 00
3,	"	J. C. Gilpatrick breaking roads,	10 27
	"	Frank Braley " "	4 56
	"	Wm. Webster " "	6 82
	"	D. F. Cummings surveying highway,	5 00
	"	D. F. Cummings watering trough,	3 00
7,	"	Webster Russell & Co. clothing for Nettie Lovejoy,	8 00
	"	Webster Russell & Co. merchan- dise for highway,	12 77
	"	Webster Russell & Co. for paint and oil for cemetery,	47 99
10,	"	R. B. Clark bal. spec. tax dist. No. 8,	18 58
11,	"	State Tax,	1292 00
	"	M. B. Whitman board of Mrs. Blake,	5 00
	"	T. J. Adams expenses to Concord with J. G. Barrett,	10 10
11,	"	Eliza B. Connor for assistance,	4 50
	"	L. M. Howe overseer of Poor for support of Roxana Stearns,	28 00
18,	"	Timothy Cheney painting at cem'y,	34 50
19,	"	N. H. Weeks land damage,	25 00
	"	W. G. Flanders stove pipe for lobby,	2 30
21,	"	L. M. Howe special tax district No. 2 in part,	175 00
22,	"	Insane Asylum for support of J. G. Barrett,	18 82
25,	"	W. G. Hull abatement on tax,	2 47
31,	"	W. W. Wilkinson for G. W. Love- joy's witness fees,	2 00
	"	allowed W. W. Wilkinson for abatement taxes in 1874,	5 56
	"	allowed W. G. Rogers for abate- ment taxes in 1872,	23 21
	"	Drury E. Holmes breaking roads,	9 30
	"	allowed collector on non-resident tax	75
	"	" " " dist. No. 16,	2 00
	"	" " " " 2,	9 50

Jan.	31,	notes taken up,	5165 01
		endorsed on notes,	322 64
		School money,	1630 50
		Literary money,	154 40
Feb.	9,	Phebe J. Foster bd. of Sam'l Foster,	14 00
	10,	J. E. Avery breaking roads,	4 69
	11,	E. S. Bailey labor on bridge,	7 00
		Town Clerk of Rumney exam- ining records,	1 25
		J. L. Rogers rent of Town Hall in part,	30 00
		A. K. Bruce care of Mary Bruce,	24 00
		John X. Brown breaking roads,	5 42
12,		James Currier lumber for bridge,	20 00
		B. Gould public water trough,	3 00
		M. S. Brown services as police,	7 00
		J. S. Morrison public water trough,	3 00
		E. H. Gove breaking roads,	5 60
		M. B. Whitman care of Mrs. Blake,	6 00
		T. H. Martin for assistance to Mrs. Reynolds,	5 00
17.		J. N. Smith breaking roads,	2 02
		Moses Pervier	11 30
		W. A. Draper,	2 70
		J. C. Gilpatrick,	9 30
		Frank Braley,	2 70
		W. W. Haseltine,	5 55
		F. W. A. Robie serv. as T'n Clerk,	50 00
18.		allowed collector abatement 1875,	55 61
		E. B. Connor assistance,	3 75
		E. D. Hall breaking roads,	9 96
		F. G. Morse	19 57
21.		D. R. Bartlett,	24 60
		S. M. Morse	8 02
		Henry Wells	5 93
		John X. Brown,	8 44
		S. F. Jewell work on highway,	2 25
		Moses Sargent light'g Baker's bridge,	12 10
22.		D. R. Bartlett wood for C. B. Adams,	21 25
23,		Jona. Ferrin bd. of Melvina Kimball,	51 85
		Jona. Ferrin clothing for	4 96
		Enos Stevens breaking roads,	3 65
		John Mason for merchandise,	15 52
25.		J. L. Rogers bal. rent of hall,	25 00
		Joseph Burrows legal services,	16 00
		Burrows & Jewell	13 75

26.	"	Sam'l Brock bd. of Fanny Clark,	7 00	
	"	G. R. Cummings breaking roads,	13 13	
28.	"	S. W. Davis med. ser. to Melvina Kimball,	1 50	
	"	G. H. Harris over-tax,	43	
	"	Reuben Robie for breaking roads and pub. watering trough,	5 89	
	"	V. N. Bass blank books & stationery.	13 89	
	"	H. Hobart breaking roads,	3 00	
	"	Simeon Eastman board of J. B. Eastman,	12 00	
	"	J. Keeble services with hearse,	10 00	
	"	W. S. Robinson over-work on road,	7 95	
	"	I. M. Merrill making sign board,	3 50	
	"	Geo. P. Cook breaking plow,	3 00	
	"	K. C. Corliss work on highway,	8 40	
	"	Anthony Colcord abatement of tax,	2 45	
	"	Otis Young Jr. serv. as police,	11 00	
	"	" " cross'g field,	5 00	
	"	" " break'g road,	1 00	17 00
	"	W. W. Wilkinson services as collector in part,	125 00	
	"	E. E. Merrill breaking roads,	4 15	
	"	W. W. Gibson for clay and gravel,	6 00	
	"	" taking affidavit,	2 00	
	"	" over-work,	10 93	18 93
	"	abatement allowed collector 1870,	68 47	
	"	L. M. Howe for clothing for Wm. Webber and Sam'l Foster,	6 00	
	"	" clothing for B. Emerson,	8 90	
	"	" fare to Concord and Tilton,	6 17	
	"	" for Roxanna Stearns,	1 00	
	"	" assistance to transient paupers,	6 90	
	"	" postage,	1 86	
	"	" bedding for lobby,	2 50	93 33
	"	H. M. Rogers services as select- man and keeping trans. persons,	130 00	
	"	G. W. Garland services as select- man and use of team,	130 00	
	"	L. M. Howe services as selectman,	140 00	
	"	" overseer of Poor,	30 00	170 00

Cash paid A. G. Smythe services as treas'r.	100 00	
“ “ “ use of room for selectmen,	15 00	
“ “ “ paid for blanks,	1 00	116 00
“ express and postage,		1 50
“ C. Kenniston and P. Fox services as auditors,	5 00	
“ abatement allowed collector for 1874,	20 00	
Taxes in hands of collectr for 1869, Mar. 1, 1876,	29 29	
“ “ 1870, “	10 52	
“ “ 1871, “	333 05	
“ “ 1875. “	941 65	
Cash in hands of Treasurer, March 1, 1876,	775 96	
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		\$17,808 24

We have examined the accounts of the Selectmen and treasurer for the year ending March 1st, 1876, and find them correctly cast and properly vouched.

PLUMMER FOX, }
CYRUS KENISTON, } Auditors.

Plymouth, N. H., March 3, 1876.

OVERSEER OF THE POOR

In account with the Town of Plymouth,

Cr.

By	paid for the support of	Mrs. Howard,	106 85
"	"	" Bruce,	150 00
"	"	Samuel Foster,	121 00
"	"	Wm. Webber & wife,	138 47
"	"	Nettie Lovejoy,	8 00
"	"	Mrs. Fanny Clark,	74 75
"	"	Malvina Kimball,	181 01
"	"	Mrs. M. Blake,	43 73
"	"	Mrs. E. B. Connor,	14 25
"	"	Mrs. Reynolds,	5 00
"	"	John G. Barrett,	28 92
"	"	Eben Shute,	175 62
"	"	Solon Currier,	76 68
"	"	John B. Eastman,	12 00
"	"	Roxan Stearns,	81 41
"	"	Andrew Mack,	29 50
"	"	transient paupers,	34 15
"	for wood for Mrs. C. B. Adams,		21 25

\$1,302 59

Dr.

May.	Received from the County Treasurer,	142 50
Nov.	" " " "	288 93
"	" Laconia,	45 00
"	" Roxan Stearns,	259 50
	Orders on the Town Treasurer,	566 66

\$1,302 59

INDEBTEDNESS OF THE TOWN MARCH 1, 1876.

Notes and interest on do. March 1, 1876,	24,487 08
Cash deposited by Roxan Stearns for her support,	180 09
Due Sup. School Com. for services 1875—6,	55 00
Due School Dist. No 2, bal. of special tax,	125 00
Outstanding coupons,	73 12
Land damages due for new highways laid out in 1875,	31 00
Due for one sheep killed by dogs,	4 00
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	\$24,955 29

ASSETS.

Bal. of J. F. & W. F. Langdon's note and interest,	734 98
Due from the County for support of paupers,	221 17
" Supt. of the Town Cemetery,	36 17
Cart, plow and sled,	40 00
78 stone posts,	78 00
Liquors and casks on hand,	48 50
Due from collector of 1869,	29 29
" " 1870,	10 52
" " 1871,	333 05
" " 1875,	941 65
Cash in hands of Town Treasurer,	769 96
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	\$3,243 29
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Total debt,	\$21,712 00

L. M. HOWE,
 G. W. GARLAND, } Selectmen
 H. M. ROGERS. } of
 Plymouth.

SCHOOL REPORT.

To the Selectmen of Plymouth:

The time has come for me to report to you again the standing and condition of the schools in town under my charge, and the progress, if any which has been made during the past school year. I am happy to state at this opening of my report, that the schools as a whole have made much better progress this year than last year.

The character and ability of the teachers have been such as to preclude the necessity of dismissing any one or of bringing the schools to a close before the specified time; and the evident preparation and talent for teaching shown among those who have favored us with their services, have been very much above those of the year before.

This has been owing partly to a more careful selection having been made by the prudential committees, partly to a more thorough examination by myself, and largely to having employed a greater per cent of experienced teachers. Six of these thirteen teachers taught in this town last year with such good success as to be asked to "come again;" and I advise prudential committees to consult *more* with the superintending committee and to retain the best of the old teachers as far as possible for next year.

No one is recorded as having been a teacher of the first term. Their experience has varied from five to eighty months and five of them had taught twenty-four months or more each, prior to teaching among us this year. This is a matter of great importance, and although it is well known that every one must have a beginning and make a

trial trip, still it is my firm belief that very many begin too young.

Take the young girl, precocious among a very few, scarcely out of short dresses, standing in her own school district, among her every day play-mates, some of them her seniors, and pretending to play the role of school mistress. What can we expect from the school? Only a very few are able to meet the demands of the occasion and come out mistress of the situation.

No male teacher has been employed during this year and only one for the two past years, and he for only three weeks, so we can easily see into whose hands our schools are falling and prepare to meet the emergency. Employ young ladies of good principles, well trained for the work and we have the very best teachers as a class that can be placed in our common schools. Would it not excite envy, I should be pleased to mention, one or two young ladies among our teachers, as models, but fear of a tumult dictates silence, still they have been with us and their fame and good works will be known at other hands than my own.

During two years only one teacher has ventured to record in the register her ideas, (they were good and she receives my thanks,) of the school which she taught. There is a space left especially for that purpose. The teachers observe the scholars for several weeks and are expected by the State to have some thoughts in regard to the school and are asked to express those thoughts for the benefit of others; yet we get almost no suggestions from the teachers as to what their knowledge of the wants of the school may be.

Our prudential committees have interested themselves very little better than they did last year. More visits have been made by this officer according to the registers than in any year for a decade.

Let them once realize the importance of the office and they can do much good towards elevating the standard of our schools. I must give them credit however for having done their duty more faithfully in regard to the registers, as nearly all have been returned according to law, well and properly kept. Only one gross violation could be mentioned.

The school houses have received more attention than for many years, and No. 8 has done itself great credit in the manner and completeness of its repairs. Having good brick walls to start upon they have newly shingled the roof, laid a new floor, and put in a complete set of new seats, and to-day they have the best seated school room in town except No. 2. Could the ceiling be two or three feet higher for purposes of ventilation, their school room would not be a bad pattern for every other district to copy. And all this at the moderate outlay of about \$129.

No. 3 has done something, having expended in all about \$56. They have newly shingled the roof, and have built an inside door of such a character that the children will not very soon cut it in pieces nor carry it away. They have boarded up some of the enormous cracks, but all they have done by way of repairing the seats is only labor thrown away and shows still more clearly the demand for additional repairs. Like the old man's two legged stool they seem to think "it'll do" but the children with aching backs and tired legs "can't see it." Their blackboards are miserable and they have few of them. This needs immediate attention.

No. 6 is extremely deficient in this matter of school houses and the gaze of the whole town ought to be turned in that direction. I wish you could call and see *their* blackboard! The building

has stood as it now stands in a dilapidated condition for a time to which the memory of man runneth not to the contrary; and if anything is said, you are met with the reply "it's good enough." Like some of our thriftless, shiftless farmers who have used the same plow and snath that have been handed down from their great grandfathers; lived in the same house without the slightest improvement; who have never acquired anything, but have simply existed, envious of their more thrifty neighbors. Thus many persons argue in regard to our old school houses. "It was good enough for my father and it ought to be good enough for my children; let it alone." No spirit of improvement has ever entered their minds, at least so far as paying for school houses is concerned. And this, gentlemen, in the district second in size, wealth, and number of scholars in town. With an assessed valuation of \$50,000 they claim to be *too poor* to build a school house!

This does not represent one half of the actual wealth of the district. \$100,000 more nearly states the fact, and what a small per cent of this is needed to build a comfortable, respectable school house. One or one and a half per cent is an abundance for all needs with a generous allowance for incidentals.

Compel some of the parents who live in fine houses to take strangers into the schools and exhibit to them the condition of their children, and a blush of shame would mantle their brows. Most of them would much prefer taking the stranger into their barns, and there enlarge upon the comfort and convenience they had furnished for their swine.

Witness for a short forenoon the little children perched upon the high seats, their short legs dangling in the air, without a rest or support of any kind, and who can be found with a heart to criticise them for converting themselves into miniature rainbows.

with their knees upon the desks on a level with their heads. The parent goes occasionally, perhaps to church, for a short morning sermon, and placing it at the highest calculation he occupies his seat about fifty-two hours in the year, while the child, in a school year of fifteen weeks, is in the school room about four hundred and fifty hours. The parent must have the church pew cushioned, carpeted, with stools for the feet and hassocks for the knees, if he ever uses them; rests for the elbows, and pads for the back, in fact everything that the imagination can conceive and ingenuity construct which will alleviate the pangs of confinement for one short hour; while his child is compelled to sit upon the unvarnished soft side of a pine board with no support for foot hand or head, for six mortal hours and then is punished if he makes any noise! I pray for the deliverance of our children from this bondage and bespeak for them seats and desks suited to their age and height. Furnish these and make the school room attractive. What boy however rude will go into his father's parlor, and wantonly whittle, cut, and mutilate the furniture? And what boy however clever will not at times go into the woodshed, take his hatchet and hew down the posts? Give them good houses and pride will do more towards protecting the property than ferules or switches. Have the child understand that it is *his* desk and that he is responsible for the neatness and care of the same. Let him occupy the same for several terms in succession until he outgrows it, and then make the choice of seats a premium; the best desk for the boy that uses it in the best manner, and let it be *known* who occupies the cleanest desk in school.

Yankees are prone to get their feet higher than their heads and then spit, but they won't do it

on the piano or in the parlor. So I say, cultivate the esthetic element of our children as well in the school room as at home, and we shall do something to diminish the number of occupants of the great stone block at our capitol.

The statistical facts and such other matter as is required to be reported by law will be found in the following Table:

PRUDENTIAL COMMITTEES.		TEACHERS.	
Districts.		Summer or Winter.	
1 Fred. Burtt.	149 04	Miss S. J. Ames.	10 24
2 L. M. Howe.	672 17	H. O. Judd, Prin.	11 27
3 S. M. Spencer.	140 96	Miss J. S. Emmons.	24 19
4 W. H. Adams.	88 74	Miss A. G. Morse.	18 11
5 Joseph Yeaton.	82 14	Miss C. T. Clark.	22 4
6 G. M. McQuesten.	175 04	Miss Corn U. Page.	3 3
7 Jane Kidder.	72 84	Miss A. P. Handy.	23 19
8 N. D. Melvin.	99 39	Miss F. V. Nutting.	15 4
9 H. Cadden.	137 64	Miss A. C. Sargent.	18 10
10 Wm. Hartman.	125 4	Miss C. G. Drake.	0 4
11 Wm. Hartman.	125 4	Miss E. J. Martin.	1 1
12 Wm. Hartman.	125 4	Miss L. V. George.	4 1
Union District.	41 60	Miss M. E. Connell.	11 28
		Miss F. A. Bailey.	24 12
Total amount of money.		Weeks of schooling.	9 24
		Wages of teachers a month including board	24 12
		Whole number of scholars.	18 11
		Average attendance.	15 4
		Instances of tardiness.	15 4
		Instances of dismissal.	8 12
		Number not absent 1/2 day.	0 4
		Number visits of Supt. School Committee.	4 18
		Number visits Prudential Committee.	15 4
		Reading and Spelling.	22 4
		Penmanship.	15 10
		Arithmetic.	13 6
		Geography.	10 10
		Grammar.	10 10
		All other studies.	2 9

All of which is most respectfully submitted.

S. W. DAVIS,
Supt. School Com.

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